

Message Text

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TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 189821

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: OCON, XA

SUBJECT: AF CHIEFS OF MISSION CONFERENCE, OCTOBER 8-13,
1978

1. IN PREPARATION FOR UPCOMING CHIEFS OF MISSION CONFERENCE
IN WASHINGTON, WE WANT TO HAVE YOUR SUGGESTIONS AND IDEAS
FOR TIMELY AGENDA TOPICS. WE HAVE POLLED AF STAFFERS IN
WASHINGTON, WHO HAVE COME UP WITH THE FOLLOWING ILLUSTRATIVE
ISSUES AND TOPICS:

-- CUBAN AND SOVIET INVOLVEMENT IN AFRICA -- AN EXAMINATION
FROM THEIR VIEWPOINT.

-- WAYS TO HELP THE OAU IMPROVE ITS EFFECTIVENESS IN AD-
DRESSING AND RESOLVING AFRICAN PROBLEMS.

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-- OUR EVOLVING RELATIONS WITH THE SO-CALLED PROGRESSIVE
AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS.

-- WHAT MORE, IF ANYTHING, SHOULD WE BE DOING WITH AND FOR
THE "MODERATE" BLOC, THAT NOW SEEMS TO HOLD THE UPPER HAND
IN THE OAU?

-- ARE THE TERMS "MODERATE" AND "PROGRESSIVE" OUTMODED?

-- ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE: AFRICAN NEEDS VERSUS OUR RESOURCE LIMITATIONS.

-- ARMS TO AFRICA: FRIENDS-IN-NEED VERSUS ARMS RESTRAINT POLICIES.

-- SOUTH AFRICA AND US DOMESTIC POLITICS.

-- US INTERESTS IN THE HORN.

-- AFRICA AND THE GREAT NORTH-SOUTH DEBATE.

-- HUMAN RIGHTS AND US POLICY IN AFRICA.

-- THE US CONGRESS AND POLICY TOWARD AFRICA.

-- AFRO-ARAB RELATIONS.

-- AFRICA AND THE US MEDIA.

2. WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE ABOVE AND OTHER TOPICS EARLY ON TO HELP US IN MAKING THIS CONFERENCE OF MOST VALUE TO YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES. SLUG YOUR RESPONSE FOR AF/P. CHRISTOPHER
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